

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06256 051812Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7068
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6256

WARSAW PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, CSCE, ELAB, UR, US
SUBJECT: SOVIET DEMARCHE ON REFUSAL OF VISAS FOR TRADE UNION
OFFICIALS

REF: MOSCOW 2977

1. POL COUNSELOR WAS CALLED IN BY FEDOSEYEV OF MFA
ON MAY 5. IN WHAT SEEMED A PRO FORMA FASHION, FEDOSEYEV
HANDED OVER NOTE COMPLAINING ABOUT AMERICAN REFUSAL TO
ISSUE VISAS TO SOVIET TRADE UNION OFFICIALS.

2. EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF NOTE FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY AGAIN TO DRAW
THE ATTENTION OF THE EMBASSY OF THE USA TO THE ACTIONS
OF THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES HINDERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
CONTACTS AND EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE USA,
AND IN PARTICULAR TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE DISCRIMINATORY
PRACTICE OF SYSTEMATICALLY REFUSING TO ISSUE
ENTRY VISAS TO DELEGATIONS OF SOVIET TRADE UNIONS
WHICH HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY INVITED TO THE USA BY
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AMERICAN TRADE UNIONS.

THE SOVIET SIDE HAS ALREADY MORE THAN ONCE COMMENTED
ON THE UNLAWFULNESS OF SUCH ACTIVITY BY THE AMERICAN
SIDE. THIS WAS THE SUBJECT IN PARTICULAR OF THE
DECLARATIONS OF THE MINISTRY TO THE EMBASSY OF THE
USA OF NOVEMBER 12, 1975 AND MAY 3, 1976 AND ALSO

IN THE NOTE OF THE MINISTRY TO THE EMBASSY OF MAY
28, 1976.

RECENTLY THE EMBASSY AGAIN REFUSED TO ISSUE VISAS
TO A DELEGATION OF WORKERS FROM THE TRADE UNION OF
THE MARITIME AND RIVER FLEET OF THE USSR, WHICH HAD
BEEN INVITED TO A CONGRESS ON THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE
UNION STEVEDORES OF THE WEST COAST. MOREOVER FROM
THE EXPLANATIONS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE USA CONCERNING THIS REFUSAL
IT FOLLOWS THAT THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES INTEND TO
ADHERE IN THE FUTURE TO THE DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE
MENTIONED.

THIS PRACTICE IS IN DIRECT CONTRADICTION TO THE
SPIRIT AND LETTER OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE USSR AND USA ON CONTACTS, EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION.

IT IS ALSO COMPLETELY OBVIOUS THAT THE REFUSAL
OF VISAS FOR ENTRANCE TO THE USA OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE SOVIET TRADE UNIONS IS A CLEAR VIOLATION BY THE
UNITED STATES OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT
OF THE CONFERENCE FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN
EUROPE CONCERNING COOPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN AND
OTHER FIELDS. ONE CANNOT BUT NOTE IN THESE
CIRCUMSTANCES THAT THIS LINE OF NOT PERMITTING
TRADE UNION EXCHANGES IN NO WAY CORRESPONDS TO THE
WIDE-RANGING DECLARATIONS OF OFFICIALS OF THE USA
CONCERNING BROADENING OF CONTACTS BETWEEN PEOPLES.
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THE MINISTRY EXPECTS THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE WILL
RECONSIDER ITS NEGATIVE POSITION IN THIS QUESTION
IN THIS MATTER AND TAKE MEASURES FOR THE REMOVAL OF
THESE ARTIFICIAL OBSTACLES ON THE PATH OF NORMAL
RELATIONS OF THE TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS OF THE
USSR AND USA. END QUOTE.

2. POL COUNS LIMITED HIS COMMENTS TO OBSERVING THAT
THE AMBASSADOR HAD DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH DEPUTY
FOREIGN MINISTER KORNIYENKO ON MARCH 1 (REFTEL).
HE SAID THAT HE WOULD OF COURSE FORWARD THE NOTE
TO HIS SUPERIORS. FEDOSEYEV QUICKLY TURNED TO ANOTHER
SUBJECT.

3. NOTE POUCHED TO EUR/SOV.
TOON

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NNN

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